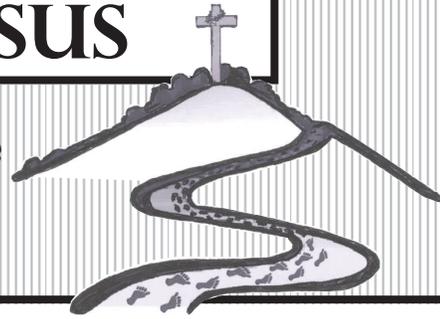


TO BE LIKE JESUS

Parent Resource Page Lesson 20: BEING CONTENT



Themes:

- Jesus commands us to be content with what we have.
- Everything that we have is a gift from a good and generous heavenly Father.
- We are often not content with what we have and are envious of what others have.

Scripture:

Matthew 20:1-15; Isaiah 44:24b; Psalm 24:1a; Psalm 135:6; Matthew 6:8b;
Acts 17:25b; Matthew 7:11; Psalm 103:5a; Hebrews 13:5

Memory Verse: Hebrews 13:5

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for He has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Take it to heart: Do you often compare what you have with what others have? Why? Do you feel that you need what they have in order to be happy? Why? If and when you feel this way, what are you saying about what you think will make you truly happy? Is this what God tells us will make us happy? Is God your heavenly Father? Do you trust Him to provide for you all that you need in order to be happy?

What kinds of things do you ask God for? Why do you ask for these things? Do you believe that God wants to give you good gifts? (Read Matthew 7:7-11.) Do you complain about the good things that God has already given you? Why is it hard for us to sometimes be thankful for what God has given us?

Review these verses: Isaiah 44:24; Psalm 24:1; Psalm 135:6; Matthew 6:8; Acts 17:25; Matthew 7:11; and Psalm 103:5. Because all of these things are true about God, is He able to satisfy your every need? Therefore, if He withholds something from one of His children, like a bigger house or having your own bedroom, is it because He isn't able to provide you with those things? Is it because He is stingy? Why might God choose to withhold something from you? What good thing might God be teaching you? Can you think of an example?

Pray about it: When you have feelings of envy creep into your heart, do you stop to think about how generous God has already been to you? Do you thank Him for life and breath and everything else? Go to Him in prayer and thank Him. Ask Him to give you a grateful and contented heart.